

Eurographics UK Chapter

History of the Chapter
(1981-2007)





Eurographics UK Chapter

- Founded in December 1981
- First event: one day seminar on “3D Computer Graphics”
 - Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Summer 1982
 - attendance 200!
- First AGM was held during Eurographics ‘82
- First conference: University of York, 28-29th March, 1983
 - Invited speaker was Ernest Edmonds
- The 23rd consecutive annual conference was held in Canterbury this year

Computer Graphics Forum, Vol 1, No 2, pp 36-37.

The Formation of a National Chapter

D A Duce*

As was reported in the last issue of Computer Graphics Forum a National Chapter of the Eurographics Association has been formed in the United Kingdom. I have been asked by the Executive Committee of Eurographics to tell the story of its formation to encourage other nations to follow suite and to guide those already engaged in this exercise.

The original impetus for the UK Chapter came from a meeting of UK members of Eurographics during Eurographics '81 in Darmstadt. Traditionally graphics meetings in the UK have been organised by the graphics package user groups and other specialist groups. There was a feeling that an umbrella organisation such as Eurographics working with the existing groups, could draw together these interests and attract a much wider audience, as many people seem to be deterred from attending meetings at present because they are organised by specialist groups and a specialist bias is wrongly assumed.

These views were made known to the Eurographics Executive Committee and an encouraging reaction was forthcoming.

An *ad hoc* Executive Board was set up to launch the Chapter, consisting of 7 members. Officers (Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary) were elected (almost in army fashion, You, You and You!) from the 7. The first task was to sketch out a policy statement. UK members of Eurographics, as reported above, felt that there was a need for more open meetings on Computer Graphics in general in the U.K. and the initial policy statement was that the Chapter would organise a small number of 1 day meetings (details of the

first are reported elsewhere in this issue) and a longer conference (2½ - 3 days) annually. Other groups (User Groups, other Specialist Groups) will be invited to participate in the annual conference and provision will be made for them to hold their own meetings during the course of the conference. The aim here is that small groups will be relieved of the not inconsiderable administrative and financial burdens of running meetings. It remains to be seen how well this policy will work in practice; but it is sincerely hoped that the underlying aim of working alongside and not in competition with existing groups will be achieved. The aim of the Chapter is to consolidate and harmonise, not to breed division.

The Eurographics Association is an Affiliated Society of the British Computer Society which effectively makes the UK Chapter an Affiliated Society. This helps the UK Chapter with publicity and vice versa.

Having sketched out a policy, the Executive Board then had to wrestle with the more formal problems of a Constitution, relationship to the parent body and inevitably, money!

The Constitution covers the following areas:

1. Purpose of the Chapter.
2. Membership.
3. Liability of the membership.
4. Management of the Chapter election of Officers and Executive Board.
5. Accounting procedure.
6. Winding up.

The Constitution is fairly long and will not be reproduced here. Copies will be circulated to Members of the Chapter prior to the first AGM, and the author will willingly send copies to anyone else thinking of establishing a national Chapter. However a number of general

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points are in order:

1. The Chapter aims to provide a forum for the discussion of subjects of common interest and also to report on national activities in these pages.
2. Membership of the Chapter consists of all Members of the Eurographics Association resident in the United Kingdom. If a U.K. resident joins the Eurographics Association they automatically become a member of the U.K. Chapter. Only members may hold office in the Chapter (for example stand for election to the Executive Board). No fee will be charged for membership of the national Chapter.
3. The financial risks of organising a large meeting are considerable and it is important that Members should not be liable for the debts of the Chapter (we hope there won't be any, but that isn't enough!). It is equally important that the Chapter should not be liable for taxation, especially on meetings where turnover can be very large. The ways to achieve this will vary from country to country, but in the U.K. the Inland Revenue and Charity Commissioners have to be convinced that the Chapter is a non-profit making, professional body. Charitable status for the U.K. Chapter has not yet been obtained, but the necessary steps are being taken to bring this about. More is said below about finance.
4. The Chapter is managed by an Executive Board. The Officers are a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, elected annually by the Executive Board. Details of election procedures for the Board are contained in the Constitution. Elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting.
5. The Chapter will keep their own accounts, which duly audited will be published annually and circulated to the membership. The accounts will also be lodged with the Execu-

tive Board of the Eurographics Association.

6. The Constitution makes provisions for handing over all assets and property to the parent body, if the Chapter is wound up. If the parent body is not in existence at such time, assets are to be transferred to some other body with similar aims. The right to use the title "UK Chapter of the Eurographics Association" rests with the parent body, so if the Chapter does wind up, it can only be restarted with the proper authorisation from the parent body.

Having drawn up the Constitution, it was then submitted to the Executive Committee of Eurographics for approval which was given in March this year.

Now, to finance again. The Eurographics Executive Board have approved the loan of a small sum of money to launch the Chapter. Thereafter the Chapter is expected to be self supporting. There is no membership fee for the Chapter, so the sole source of income will be from meetings (legacies excepted - or should it be accepted?!). The aim of the Chapter is not to make a profit, but to break even on meetings and hold a sufficient reserve to underwrite future meetings. It has been agreed that technical meetings organised by the Chapter (as opposed to formal General Meetings) are open to non-members. To do otherwise would be a nonsense. The Chapter has a free hand in running its affairs, providing it remains within the spirit of Eurographics. However if any of the Chapter's dealings have financial implications for the parent body, then prior approval from the Eurographics Executive Board is necessary.

Other nations are encouraged to try to set up national Chapters - why not have a meeting at Eurographics '82! The author would be only too pleased to answer any queries arising from this article.

Chapter Chairs



- Ken Brodrie
 - 1982 - 1984
- Terry Hewitt
 - 1984 - 1987
- Anne Mumford
 - 1987 - 1995
- Rob Fletcher
 - 1995 - 2004
- Jonathan Roberts
 - 2004 - present

Chapter Chairs ... in 2000



Rob

Anne

Terry

Ken



Ken remembers

I have very fond memories of the early days of Eurographics UK. The idea of a UK Chapter was born in 1981, and the historical record shows that it was formally founded in December 1981. My own hazy memory recalls a conversation with Bob Hopgood at a conference I organised at Leicester in January 1982, where Bob suggested I might like to play a part in this new venture.... Of course the conversation was at the bar and of course it seemed a great idea.... When I awoke the following morning, I found that I was to be the first chairman, David Duce found he was the first secretary, and Howard Watkins found he was the first treasurer.

The graphics world in the UK at that time was rather fragmented, with separate events being organised by user groups of the leading packages of the day – GHOST and GINO-F – and by a specialist group of the British Computer Society. Eurographics UK provided an opportunity to bring these groups together under a single umbrella, while still allowing them to continue their own identity. Over time, the smaller groups have come to a natural close or change focus, but EGUK has endured.

We put together our first event as a one day seminar on “3D Computer Graphics” at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in summer 1982 – with an attendance of 200 , and with Alastair Kilgour as opening speaker. The first conference was held at York in April 1983, with John Illingworth as local organiser, and with the smaller groups organising their own half-day programmes in parallel as part of the overall conference. The Eurographics 1980-84 Report mentions that “delegates expressed their wish for the event to be repeated the following year”. It is wonderful to think that it has been repeated every year since then.

I ‘retired’ in 1984 and Terry Hewitt took over as chairman. A proud moment in my professional life was the establishment of the Ken Brodlie award for the best paper at the conference – the prize appropriately being a bottle of excellent whisky! It has been nice to present that in person every so often. This actually is quite important in order to prove I have not expired. More than once, I have been approached by someone who had heard about the ‘Ken Brodlie Award’ and assumed that I had passed away. So if anyone says to me now: ‘I am surprised to see you here...’ I never quite know what they are really thinking!

References:

DA Duce. The Formation of a National Chapter. Computer Graphics Forum, Vol 1, No 2, pp 36-37.

Eurographics Report 1980-1984. http://www.eg.org/EG/Docs/GA/Eurographics_Report_1980_1984.pdf

AC Kilgour. An Overview of 3D Graphics. Computer Graphics Forum, Vol 1, No 3, pp.143-152, 1982.



Annual Conference - The 1980's

- 1983 University of York
- 1984 University of Kent, Canterbury
- 1985 University of Bath
- 1986 University of Glasgow
- 1987 UEA, Norwich
- 1988 University of Sussex, Brighton
- 1989 University of Manchester

Ken Brodlie Award for Best Paper

- Established in 1984



Manchester (1989) – CGM is in its heyday



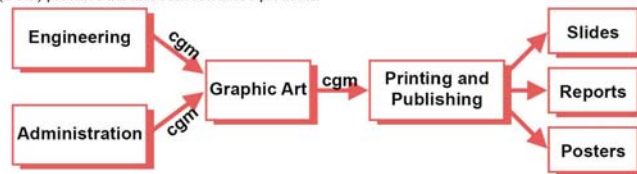
EUROGRAPHICS ASSOCIATION UK CHAPTER



Welcome to the CGM Demonstration!

This demonstration shows the integration of computer graphics products. We will see pictures being exchanged between different software packages with the images being enhanced and combined with other images. The ability to exchange images is vital to the efficiency of many companies. Reports and slide presentations frequently need to be produced. These need to incorporate a variety of pieces of information which may come from a variety of departments. The software being used might be engineering software or business graphics software. There may be a need to work on the basic graphical information to enhance its artistic appearance for a slide, or to make the image conform to a house-style.

The solution to these common problems is seen in the demonstration. The Computer Graphics Metafile (CGM) provides the link between these products.



The CGM is an international standard which specifies a file format for storing pictures on computer systems. The standard was published in 1987 and has been adopted as a British Standard. It is also an ANSI standard.

The demonstration shows the way that the CGM can be used to integrate computer graphics products. To show this integration 2 scenarios have been set up. The first shows a European company involved in the aerospace industry benefitting not only from the barriers being lifted in 1992 but from the way that standards allow true integration across Europe. The second scenario shows the collating of information from various companies in a consortium bidding for the Channel Tunnel contract. Again, information from different companies needs to be collated to produce reports, slides and promotional material.

Signing up for a CGM Tour

Tours around the CGM demonstration will be organised regularly during the conference. The numbers on each tour will be limited to allow participants the opportunity to fully appreciate the demonstration and to talk with suppliers. The tour will commence with a brief presentation to set the scene and then participants will see one of the scenarios. Following this the participants will be able to discuss the products and the integration with the suppliers involved.

Participants should sign up for a tour at the Registration desk. Sign up early to get the time you want! The testing and video exhibits will be open throughout the exhibition for viewing. Bring your own metafiles along for testing!

Contact Addresses for the Companies Involved in the Demonstration

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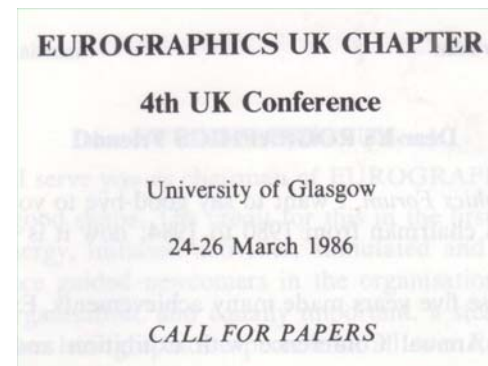
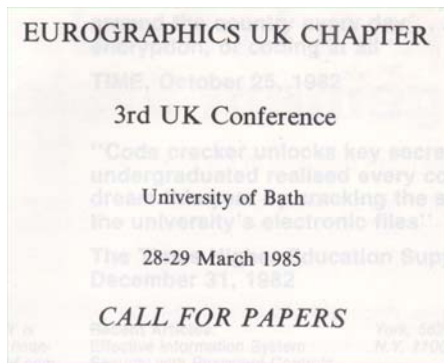
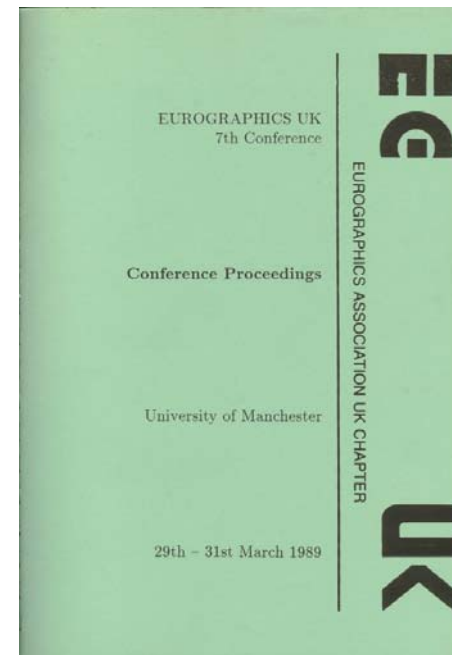
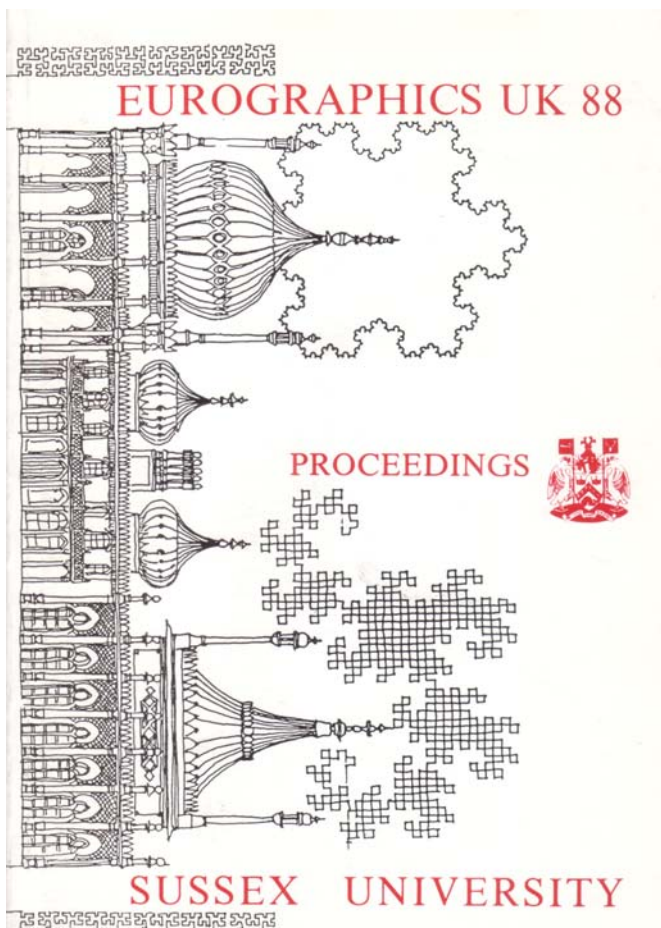
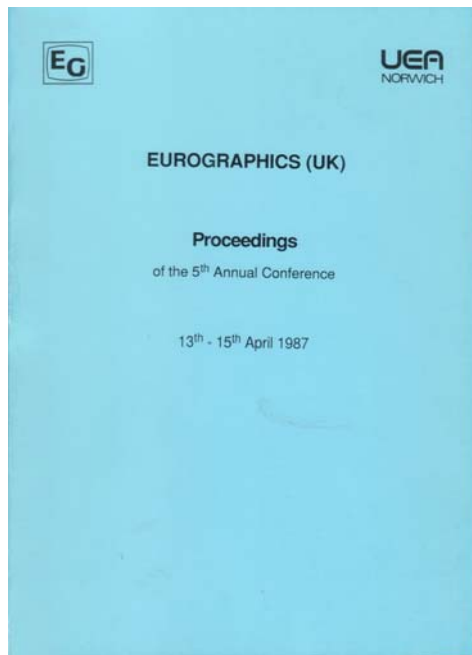
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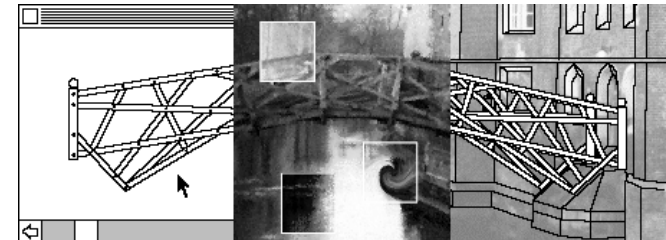
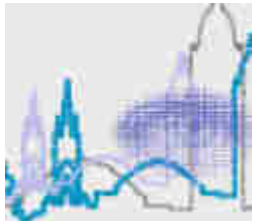
CGM Demonstration

Manchester 1989



The 1990's

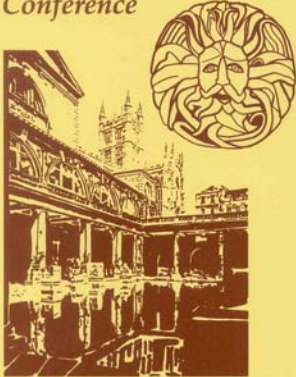
- 1990 University of Bath
- 1991 University of Sheffield
- 1992 University of Edinburgh
- 1993 University of York
- 1994 St Hugh's College, Oxford
- 1995 Loughborough University
- 1996 Imperial College London
- 1997 UEA, Norwich
- 1998 University of Leeds
- 1999 Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge



Light Fantastic, York (1993)



**8TH
EUROGRAPHICS UK
Conference**



PROCEEDINGS
UNIVERSITY OF BATH
9 - 11 APRIL 1990

EG

UK



**9th EUROGRAPHICS UK
Conference**

Proceedings
UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD
10th - 12th April 1991

EG *Eurographics UK Chapter*
10th Eurographics UK Conference



Conference Proceedings

**University of Edinburgh
14th - 15th April 1992**

EG *Eurographics UK Chapter*
10th Anniversary Conference



University of York
30th March - 1st April 1993

Conference Proceedings

EG *Eurographics UK Chapter*
12th Annual Conference



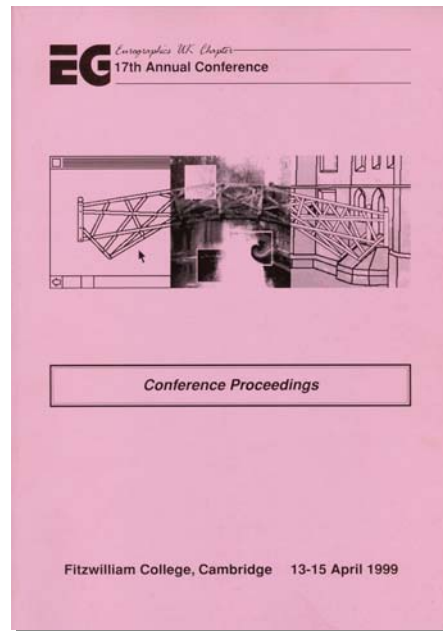
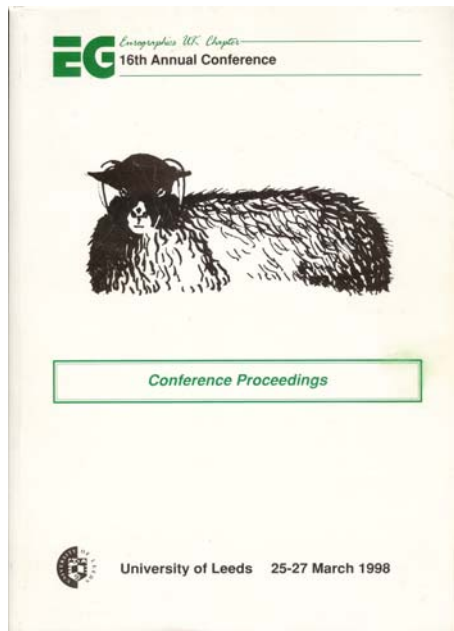
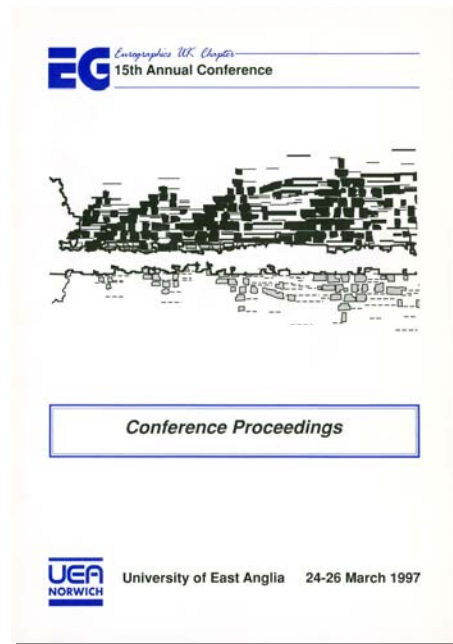
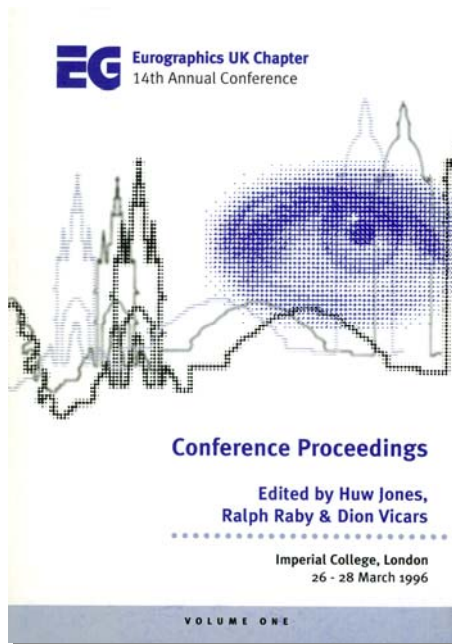
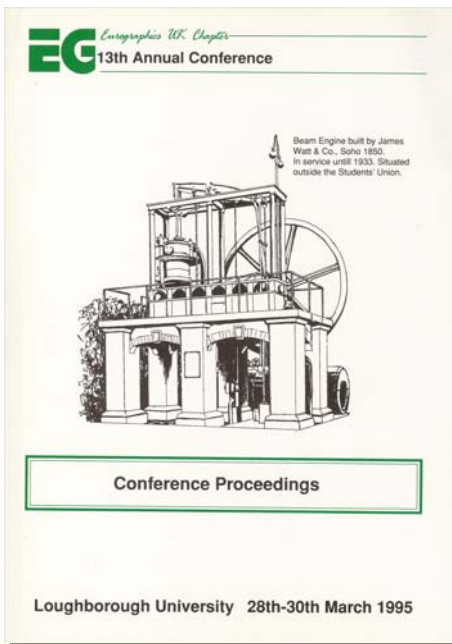
Conference Proceedings



St. Hugh's College, Oxford 22-24 March 1994

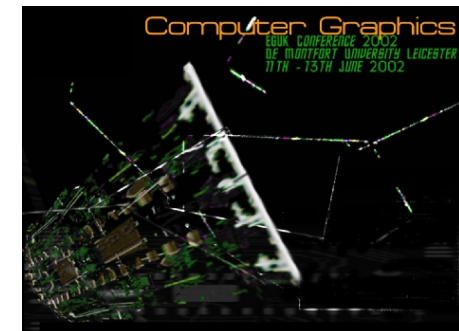
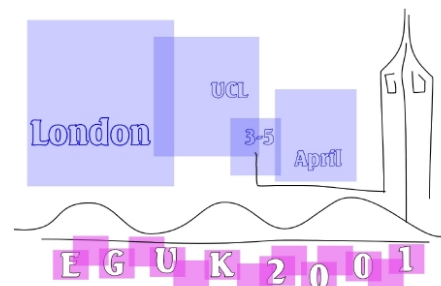
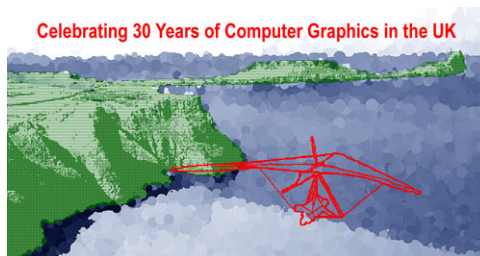
Loughborough (1995) – Conference Dinner, Great Central Railway





Into the 21st Century

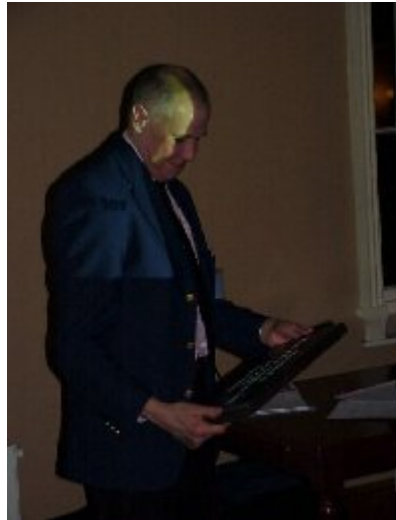
- 2000 University of Wales, Swansea
- 2001 University College London
- 2002 De Montfort University, Leicester
- 2003 University of Birmingham
- 2004 Bournemouth University
- 2005 University of Kent, Canterbury



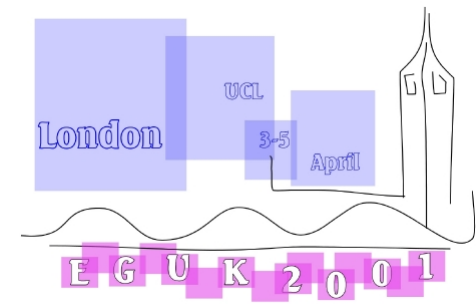
Swansea (2000) – Celebrating 30 Years of Computer Graphics in the UK



Swansea (2000) – Bob Hopgood Honoured & Inauguration of the Terry Hewitt Prize for Best Student Paper



UCL (2001) – Trip to the London Eye



DMU, Leicester (2002)



Birmingham (2003)

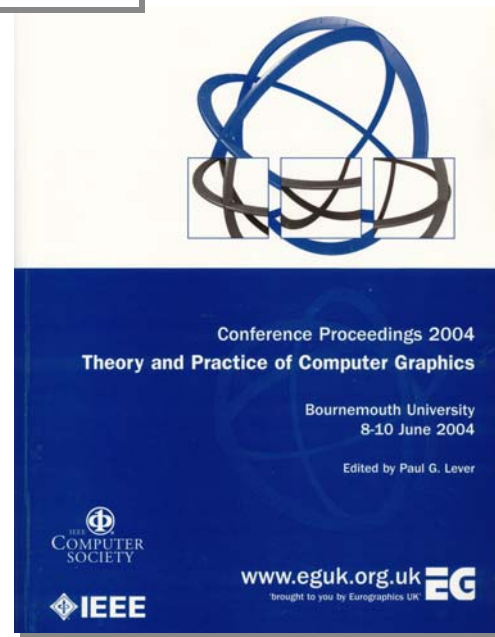
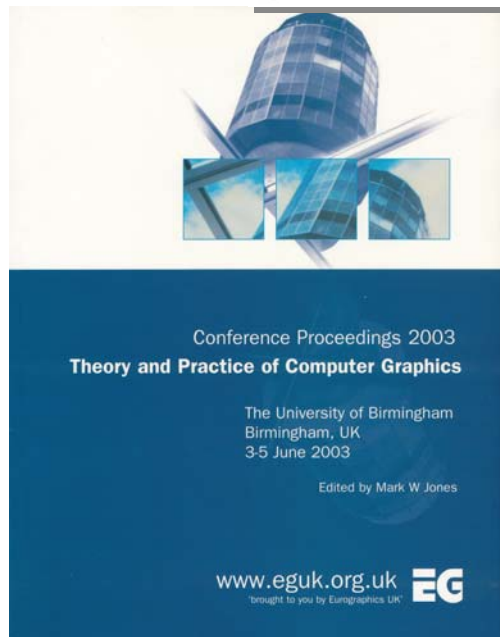
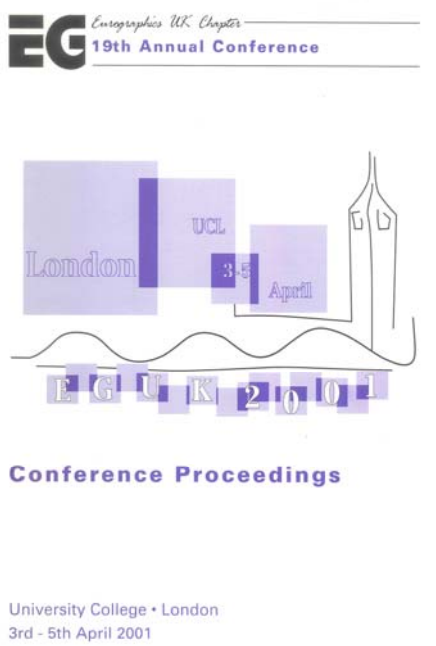
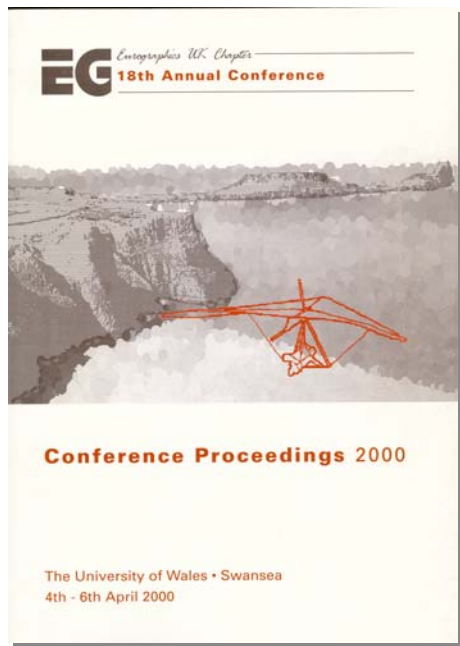


Bournemouth (2004)



Bournemouth (2004) - Huw Jones Honoured & Inauguration of the Rob Fletcher Prize for best Applications paper





Canterbury (2005)

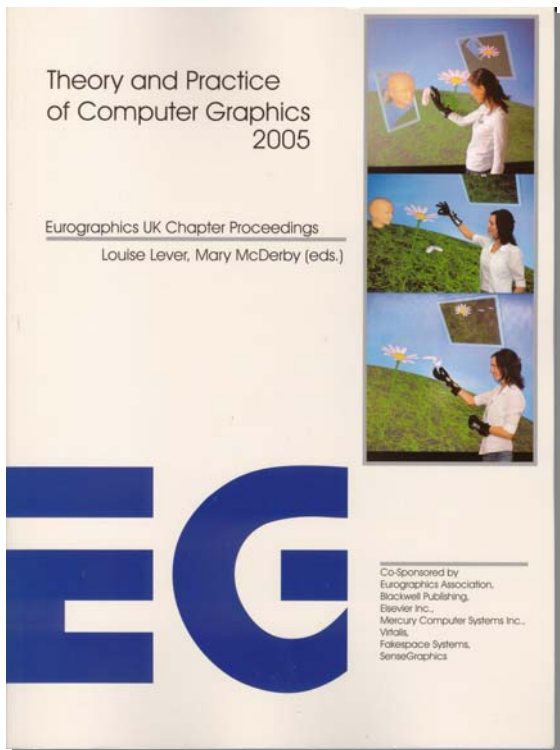


Teesside (2006)



Bangor (2007) – Jubilee Conference







EGUK Committee Members (1981 – 2007)

- David Arnold
- Malcolm Austen (S)
- Nick Avis
- Jahid Aybet
- David Briggs
- Ken Brodrie (C)
- Alan Chalmers
- Eliot Chiat
- Min Chen
- John Collomosse
- Monica Dowson
- David Duce (S)
- Rob Fletcher (C)
- Mike French
- Andy Grant
- Gillian Hall (S)
- Paul Hatton
- Terry Hewitt (C)
- Bob Hopgood
- Toby Howard
- Nigel John
- Huw Jones
- Mark Jones
- Sue Laflin-Barker
- Ik Soo Lim
- Louise Lever
- Mary McDerby (S)
- Roy Middleton (T)
- Terry Morrow (T)
- Anne Mumford (C)
- Jane Pink
- Roy Platon
- Ralph Raby
- Jonathan Roberts (C)
- Valerie Scadeng (T)
- Wen Tang
- Chris Thornborrow
- Martin Turner (T)
- Thomas Varsamidis
- Dion Vicars
- Howard Watkins (T)
- Gordon Watson
- Matthew Wheeler
- Phil Willis (T)
- Steve Wise
- Jian Jun Zhang

These are the volunteers who have made the EG UK Chapter a success.



This record of the EG UK Chapter was compiled by Nigel John
Many thanks to all EGUK colleagues who contributed
materials!

